

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A columnar honeycomb structural body comprising:
a porous ceramic block having a large number plurality of through holes placed
extending in parallel with one another in a length direction of the porous ceramic block, the
porous ceramic block having [[with]] a wall portion interposed ~~therebetween~~ between the
through holes,

~~wherein: each of said the through holes has one of ends sealed; have one of ends~~
sealed such that an opening area of one end face of the through hole differs in opening area
from holes is larger than an opening area of the other end face thereof; of the through holes,
~~the a ceramic material which constitutes said wall portion has~~ a plurality of micro pores
having an average pore diameter in a range from 5 to 30 μm ; and the rate of capacity of
micro pores include large micro pores [[each]] having a pore diameter two or more times
larger than [[said]] the average pore diameter, and the large micro pores have a capacity of
which a rate is set to 30% or less of [[the]] a capacity of the entire micro pores in entirety.

Claim 2 (original): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 1, wherein the
opening area on a gas inlet side is made larger than the opening area on a gas outlet side.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 1
or 2, wherein the wall portion includes comprising a partition wall for separating through
holes on [[the]] a gas inlet side from one another.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The honeycomb structural body according to ~~any one~~
~~of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~ceramic material which constitutes said partition wall~~
portion has a porosity in a range from 30 to 70%.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The honeycomb structural body according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein the plurality of through [[hole]] holes on a cross-section perpendicular to the length direction has a density in a range from 15.5 to 62.0 pcs/cm².

Claim 6 (currently amended): The honeycomb structural body according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein ~~a main material is~~ the porous ceramic block comprises silicon carbide as a main material.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The honeycomb structural body according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein said wall portion has a thickness in a range from 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

Claim 8 (currently amended): An exhaust gas purifying device for a vehicle, comprising the ~~[[The]]~~ honeycomb structural body according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7 claim 1, which is applied to an exhaust gas purifying device for a vehicle.~~

Claim 9 (new): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 2, wherein the wall portion has a porosity in a range from 30 to 70%.

Claim 10 (new): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of through holes on a cross-section perpendicular to the length direction has a density in a range from 15.5 to 62.0 pcs/cm².

Claim 11 (new): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 2, wherein the porous ceramic block comprises silicon carbide as a main material.

Claim 12 (new): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 2, wherein said wall portion has a thickness in a range from 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

Claim 13 (new): An exhaust gas purifying device for a vehicle, comprising the honeycomb structural body according to claim 2.

Claim 14 (new): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 4, wherein the plurality of through holes on a cross-section perpendicular to the length direction has a density in a range from 15.5 to 62.0 pcs/cm².

Claim 15 (new): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 4, wherein the porous ceramic block comprises silicon carbide as a main material.

Claim 16 (new): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 4, wherein said wall portion has a thickness in a range from 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

Claim 17 (new): An exhaust gas purifying device for a vehicle, comprising the honeycomb structural body according to claim 4.

Claim 18 (new): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 5, wherein the porous ceramic block comprises silicon carbide as a main material.

Claim 19 (new): The honeycomb structural body according to claim 5, wherein said wall portion has a thickness in a range from 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

Claim 20 (new): An exhaust gas purifying device for a vehicle, comprising the honeycomb structural body according to claim 5.